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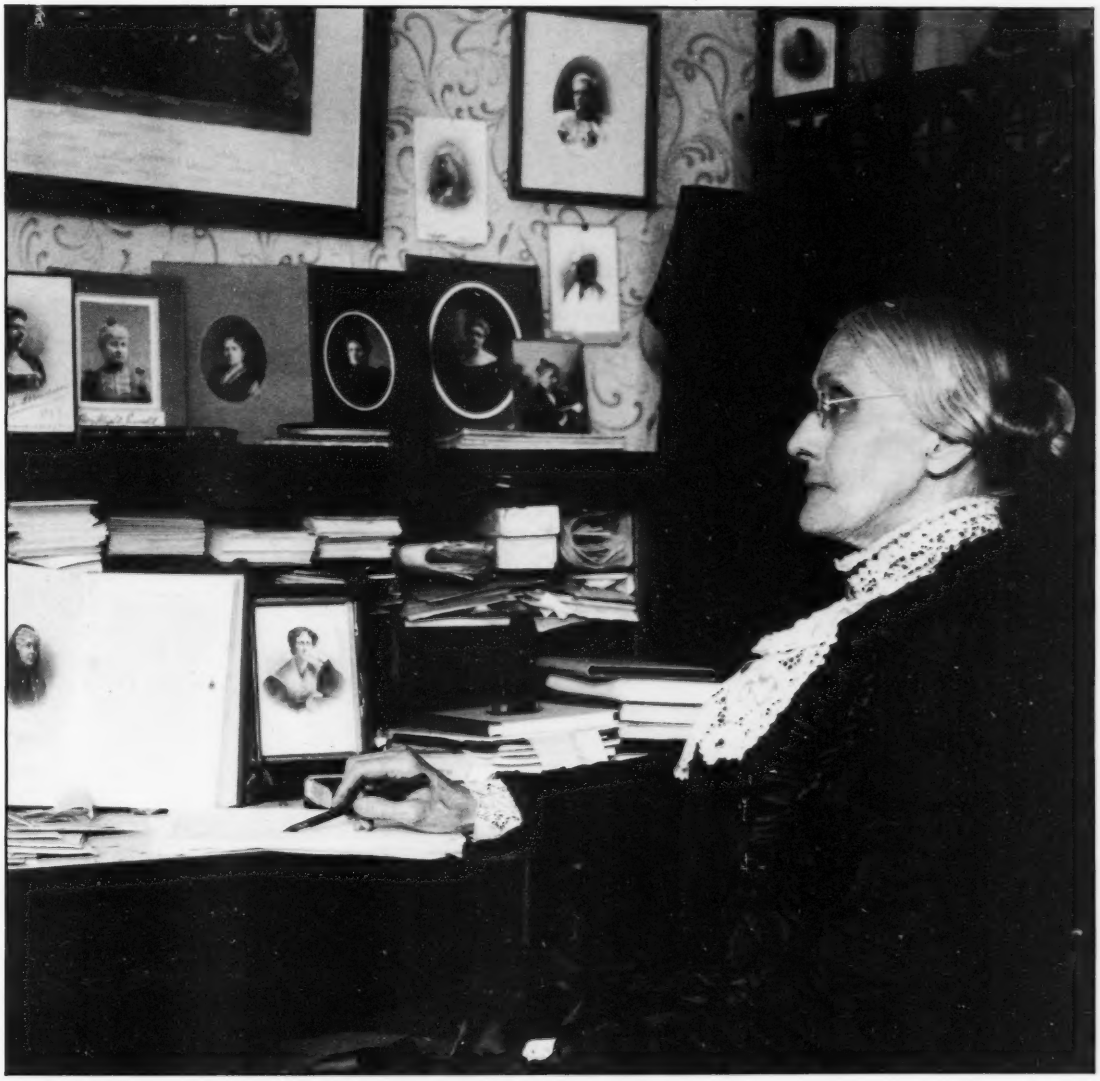

Women's History Month

Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 54, No. 8
April 17, 1995

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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Becoming Media Savvy:
Journalist Says Women Need Better Public Image

Women need to be aware of how they are portrayed in the media, in the workplace and in everyday life and be prepared to take action to correct the image if it is unrealistic or negative.

So contended Angela Owens, director of station information at Washington's WRC-TV, during the keynote address for the Library's Women's History Month observance.

"Image precedes public reality, and so we must take charge of our images, and then take charge of making our own reality. In some way we are all victims of the [media images] that stereotype women," said Ms. Owens to an overflow crowd on March 8 in the Madison Building's Mumford Room. "And each one of us has suffered because we don't have complete control of our image-making."

Suzanne Thorin, LC chief of staff, introduced Ms. Owens, who is an Emmy Award-winning journalist.

As a way to combat those unrealistic images, Ms. Owens suggested that women look up to their mothers, grandmothers and sisters. "These are the women of faith, courage and strength, and we rarely give them credit," she said. "Let's start with some of the people who have molded us and shaped us, and made us who we are."

Angela Owens

In keeping with the theme of Women's History Month at the Library—"Celebrate Women"—Ms. Owens mentioned a few outstanding women including writers Phillis Wheatley, Lorraine Hansberry, Toni Morrison and Rita Dove; educators Mary Church Terrell and Martha Collins; local arts supporter Peggy Cooper Cafritz; first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.).

Ms. Owens also asked Denise Banks, director of the Affirmative Action and Special Programs Office, who gave the opening remarks; Jean Parker, the Libray's federal women's program manager and committee chair for the program; and Ms. Thorin to stand and take a bow. "We need to honor the women at LC."

"Is it not strange that no matter how wonderful women have shown themselves to be or how much we have contributed, we still have to start from square one?" Ms. Owens asked. "There is still the need to fight, and the only answer in dealing with stereotypes and negative images is to be vigilant and to battle the consequences."

—Carroll L. Johnson

Carroll Johnson is a communications specialist in Cultural Affairs.

The Struggle for Suffrage:
Rare Book Collection Documents Women's Rights

Rosemary Fry Plakas, American history specialist in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, presented a sampler of materials on women's history from the Library's rare book collections on March 21 and again on March 30 in the Lessing J. Rosenwald Room.

Her presentation, "Celebrating the Struggle for Women's Rights," was part of the Women's History Month observance at the Library.

Three years before she died in 1906, Susan B. Anthony gave the Library her 300-volume personal library. Nearly every volume contains an inscription in Anthony's hand explaining the book's importance to her. For example, in her copy of Mary Wollstonecraft's 1792 cornerstone treatise, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Anthony notes her admiration for this "first step toward progress" in recognizing women's right to political, economic and social equality. "Aunt Susan," as Anthony was called by her followers, devoted her life to the cause of equal rights and independence for women. She believed that securing the right to vote was essential to women's ability to protect their rights to equal treatment with men in all other areas.

Although Anthony and her friend Elizabeth Cady Stanton joined in leading the women's crusade for more than 50 years, it was Stanton's efforts that led to the first organized convention proclaiming the rights of women in Seneca Falls, N.Y., in the summer of 1848. A pamphlet from the National American Woman Suffrage Association Collection documents the declarations and resolutions adopted at this landmark convention. They called for legal equality and enfranchisement of women and set in motion a movement that would achieve national significance.

Within a few years, Seneca Falls became the seat of another reform associated with woman suffrage—that of dress reform. Ms. Plakas showed illustrations from the collections that contrast the physical confinement of

A program from a women's suffrage procession. *All materials from Rare Book Division*

"BLOOMERISM,"
OR THE
NEW FEMALE COSTUME OF 1851,
As it has appeared in the various Cities and Towns.
BOSTON: S. W. WHEELER, 66 Cornhill—1851.

A mockery of the reform costume

the contemporary fashion with the freedom of the reform costume. Elizabeth Smith Miller found it a nuisance to move in the billowing awkward skirts and constraining whale-bone corset considered "proper" attire for a lady and was further concerned about the impact on her health and safety. So she designed and wore an outfit consisting of wide pantaloons gathered at the ankle or tucked into boots and topped by a loose-fitting, knee-length tunic.

In the spring of 1851 she wore her creation to visit her cousin Elizabeth Cady Stanton in Seneca Falls, and soon Stanton and the local postmistress, Amelia Bloomer, adopted the style. When Bloomer described Miller's outfit and praised its practicality in her temperance journal, *The Lily*, bolder women throughout the country began wearing the emancipating attire, publicized in a broadside song as the "Bloomer Costume."

Although Anthony and Stanton had been ardent abolitionists even before they were suffragists, they strongly opposed the post-Civil War movement to give the vote to black men without also extending it to women of all races. In an effort to rouse supporters throughout the country from their postwar apathy, Anthony and Stanton began publishing *The Revolution* in 1868. Promoting "principle, not policy; justice, not favors," this paper, in "radical and defiant tone, awoke friends and foes alike" and called for universal suffrage.

In the 1872 presidential election, Anthony was one of 14 women who registered and voted, claiming the right to vote was a privilege secured to them as citizens by the 14th Amendment. Ms. Plakas displayed Anthony's annotated copy of *An Account of the Proceedings on the Trial of Susan B. Anthony* (1874), noting that the judge discharged the jury, ruled that suffrage was not a federal right and fined Anthony $100. Finally

allowed to speak, Anthony vowed never to pay a penny of the unjust penalty and urged all women to continue to rebel against "man-made, unjust, unconstitutional forms of law, that tax, fine, imprison and hang women, while they deny them the right of representation."

As a new century approached and a new generation of suffrage leaders took up the cause, efforts were made to embrace a wider constituency. In a speech delivered before the 50th anniversary suffrage convention in 1898, Mary Church Terrell, founding president of the National Association of Colored Women, called for the end of racial injustice and gender bias in education and employment, as well as enfranchisement. Her speech, "The Progress of Colored Women," along with many other pamphlets that document the accomplishments of black women during the 40 years after emancipation, are available in the Daniel Murray Pamphlet Collection at the Library.

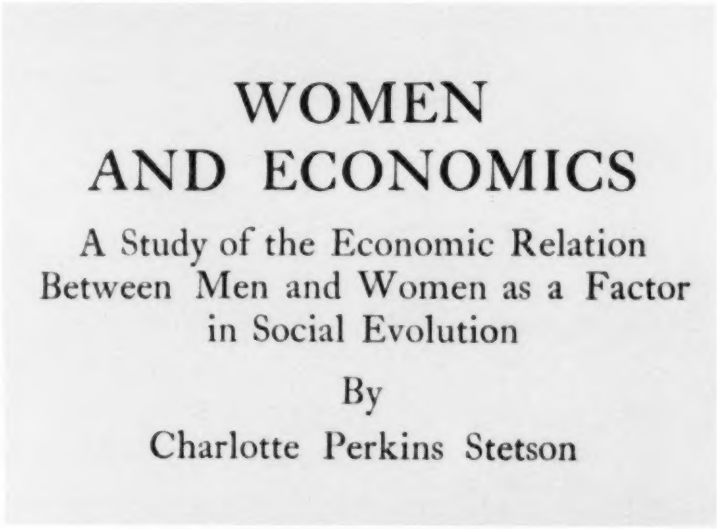
In that same year, Charlotte Perkins Stetson Gilman, a niece of Harriet Beecher Stowe, published her most important work, *Women and Economics*, in which she argued that the economic independence of women is essential to the progress of civilization. This need for control over one's life is echoed in the work of Margaret Sanger, who fought to bring birth control and family planning information to poor, working-class women. Ms. Plakas displayed a copy of *Family Limitation*, the simple instructions for controlling reproduction that Sanger began distributing through the mails in 1914.

Ms. Plakas displayed scrapbooks filled with letters, photographs, newspaper articles and cartoons that were assembled by early feminists. She also showed a number of broadsides promoting a variety of suffrage issues and announcing political programs and processions. Ms. Plakas stressed that although these ephemeral materials were not designed to last for generations, their collection and conservation are important because of the intimate and often unique insights they offer about women whose struggles have benefited all.

She noted that the length of the struggle for woman suffrage is poignantly demonstrated by the fact that only one of the women who attended the 1848 meeting in Seneca Falls lived to vote in a national election after the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920—she was in her 90s.

—Bernice Tell

Mary Church Terrell



The title page of *Women and Economics*

Women's Bands of the 1940s:
Paving the Way for Equality in Music

Profiles in Research

During the mid-1940s, the Ina Ray Hutton Band, the Sharon Rogers Band, the Hormel All-Girl Band and hundreds of other women's bands entertained millions of soldiers and civilians. Yet little is known about them and their importance to American history.

Women were largely excluded from playing in bands for hire, until World War II. Big bands (10 or more members) and the big sound they broadcast were then the rage, and musicians needed to play loudly and consistently for four or more hours at a time, often without amplifiers. Women musicians, male bookers believed, simply wouldn't please the crowd and lacked stamina.

Women musicians did have some allies, however. Instrument makers put girls and women in advertisements in the hope of expanding the size of the market. And unions, afraid that women's bands would accept gigs below standard wage scales and drive pay for all musicians down, actively recruited female members.

But it wasn't until war came that women musicians received a chance to prove themselves. Many male musicians were drafted or enlisted, and many hotels, clubs or someone throwing a wedding or party were forced to employ women.

To boost troop morale, the military signed up hundreds of female bands that played at bases in the United States and abroad. Despite the high quality of these performances, prejudice continued to cloud the perceptions of audiences.

"They were considered novelty acts" for some time, said Florice Whyte Kovan, a scholar whose parents and relatives toured the country as members of Virgil Whyte's All-Girl Band. Ms. Whyte Kovan came to the Library to conduct research on women's bands.

Wartime audiences demanded that women play like men—loudly and for hours—but they had to behave like "proper" women. Most of them portrayed themselves as "sweethearts," Ms. Whyte Kovan says. A sweetheart was a loyal wife or girlfriend waiting for her soldier to come home. Thus dozens of groups used sweetheart in their names, such as the International Sweethearts of Rhythm.

The exposure that female bands briefly enjoyed did pay off. For the first time in American history, female musicians were able to earn living wages. And some of them received top billing and made top-selling albums, including those by the Ina Ray Hutton Band.

After the war ended, many of these women returned to their lives as homemakers. But many women

Florice Whyte Kovan reads along with the music as she listens to "March of the Women Marines" in a sound booth in the Performing Arts Reading Room. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Florice Whyte Kovan's cousin, Alice Whyte, became bandleader of Virgil Whyte's All-Girl Band when Virgil Whyte, Ms. Whyte Kovan's father, was drafted in the middle of a 400-stop tour.

used their experience and continued to play as professional musicians. Several members of the Vedal Quintet in Chicago, for example, got their start as female band members during the 1940s. The quintet played at the Brass Rail, a famous Chicago nightclub, for 10 years after World War II. And while men still dominate music, there are far more women earning a living as musicians today than before the war.

While Ms. Whyte Kovan has always been fascinated with the topic, she put off her research on women's bands of the 1940s until only about five years ago on the grounds that she was too close to the subject matter.

"My background is in urban studies and I was always taught to be objective," Ms. Whyte Kovan said. Instead, the independent scholar and professional researcher has helped a wide variety of clients, such as *The New Yorker,* David Levering Lewis, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, and Rutgers University by performing copyright and database searches, writing bibliographies and completing other projects. Recently, Ms. Whyte Kovan compiled a comprehensive list of the short stories of Ben Hecht.

But beginning around 1990, the story these female band members had to tell became compelling.

Ms. Whyte Kovan created a four-volume video series about her parents' band, based on a band reunion she organized in 1991. Volume I, for example, features Ms. Whyte Kovan's aunt Alice recounting her career as the band's drummer. Volume III features Betty Knudsen, another band member. Ms. Knudsen talks about how, as a high school student in the 1940s, she replaced war-bound male musicians at performances. Ms. Whyte Kovan has donated a set of the videos to the Library of Congress.

"My relationship with the Library is a two-way street," Ms. Whyte Kovan said. "It's amazing that so little is known about these bands. I'm interested in increasing the reservoir about what's available."

Ms. Whyte Kovan also produced a cassette featuring the recordings of her parents' band, including "Back Beat Boogie," "Let's Go Home" and "Out of Nowhere."

As part of her research on female bands, Ms. Whyte Kovan watched movies and listened to 78 rpm records in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division and reviewed 1940s editions of *Downbeat* magazine in the Music Division.

After compiling so much information and making the video series, Ms. Whyte Kovan said she now plans to write a book on female bands of the 1940s.

—Howard Isenstein

Howard Isenstein is a Washington free-lance writer.

She Stood to Conquer:

Susan B. Anthony Collection Documents an Early Feminist's Life

by Craig D'Ooge

When first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton visited the Library of Congress on Feb. 16, she was shown an array of items from the collections. One item in particular especially caught her eye. In fact, she liked it so much, she requested a copy.

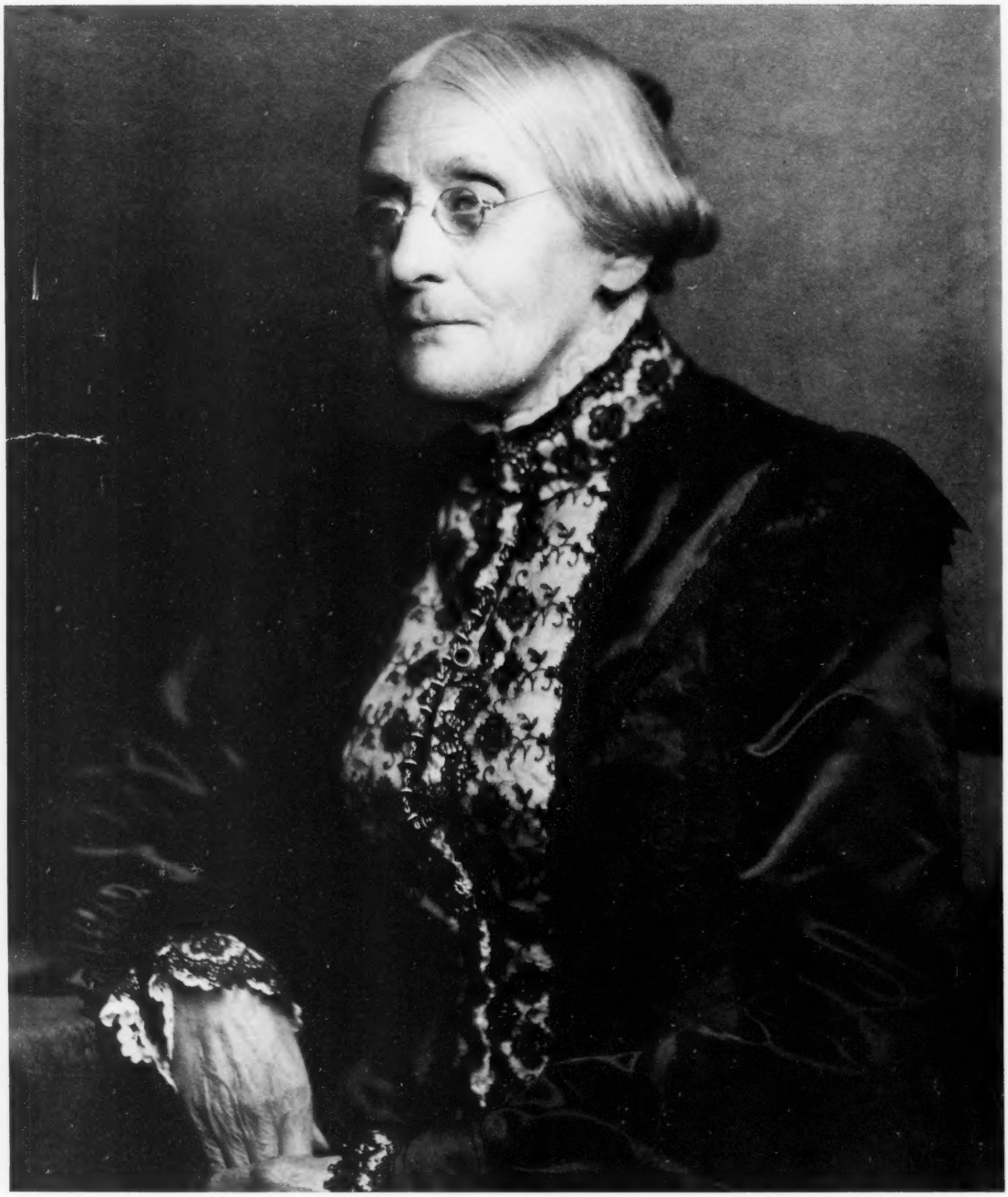
"The Apotheosis of Liberty," a pen-and-ink drawing by G.Y. Griffin commemorating the 28th annual convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

It was a letter dated Feb. 8, 1896, from Susan B. Anthony to Adelaide Johnson, a sculptor. Johnson had written to Anthony telling of the widespread condemnation she had suffered as a result of her unorthodox marriage ceremony. A woman had performed the service. And the husband took his wife's last name.

Anthony's reaction was characteristically blunt. She wrote, "The man must be next door to an idiot when he says a marriage ceremony performed by a woman is immoral." She notes that no one ever questions the morality of a Quaker marriage, which has neither a priest nor a magistrate to sanction it. "I am glad you were married by a woman," she wrote, "and I am glad that for the first time in the history of marriages of our woman's rights women, one man has at last been found to give up his own name cheerfully and accept that of the woman he married."

According to John McDonough of the Manuscript Division, the Library's Susan B. Anthony Collection is small. There are only about 500 items. Most of the letters are addressed to Rachel Foster Avery and contain the details of Anthony's

(Cont. on p. 172)



Susan B. Anthony (1820 to 1906) fought for women's suffrage. Fourteen years after her death, the "Anthony Amendment" became the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote.

Women voting at a municipal election in Boston. *Drawing by Henry Sandham for* Harper's Weekly

Anthony *(Cont. from p. 169)*
extensive lecture tours, her finances and the National Woman Suffrage Association and the later National American Woman Suffrage Association. There are six scrapbooks of newspaper clippings assembled by Anthony's sister. The 25 pocket-sized diaries in the collection contain little personal reflection, mostly notations about appointments and the weather. The assassination of Abraham Lincoln is briefly mentioned.

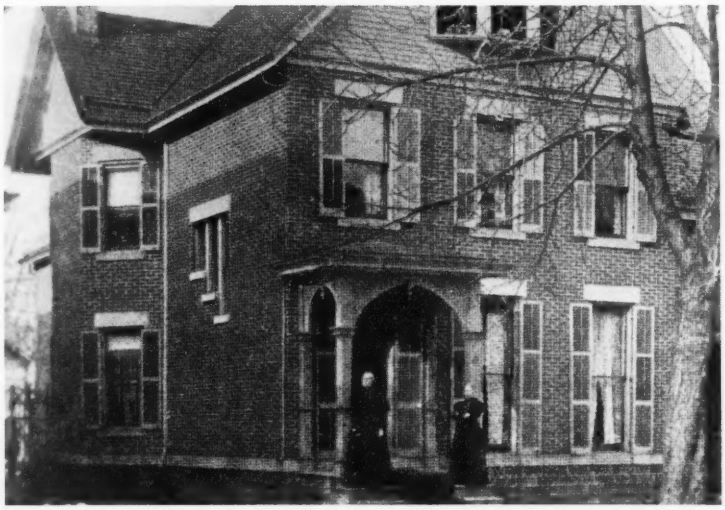
"Susan B. Anthony was not so much the writer as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, her close associate," said McDonough. "But she had the fire."

It was Stanton who first persuaded Susan B. Anthony to join the women's rights movement in 1851. A good friend of theirs, Theodore Tilton, once remarked, "It has been sometimes suspected that Mrs. Stanton and Miss Anthony are two distinct persons, united by a cartilage like the Siamese twins, but in the absence of any medical or other scientific proof of this hypothesis, I remain of the opinion that, like Liberty and Union, they are 'one and inseparable.'"

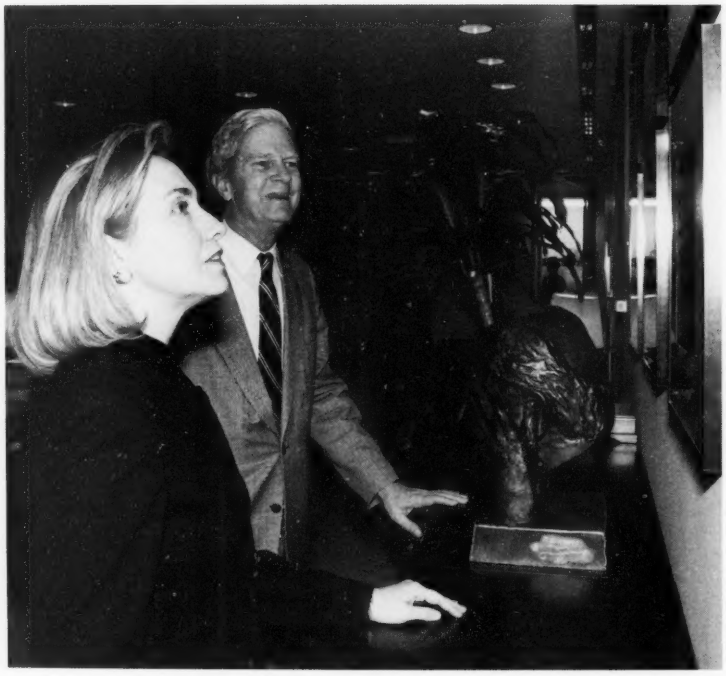
But small as the Susan B. Anthony Collection may be, the Library of Congress Manuscript Division remains a major resource for the study of women's history. The National American Woman Suffrage Association should see a lot of use during this year, the 75th anniversary of the passage of the constitutional amendment that gave women the right to vote.

There are more than 65,000 items in the "Suffrage Archives," as they are known. The published index to this collection notes that in box No. 8 of the records of the National American Woman Suffrage Association there is a letter from someone named S.H.M. Clinton. Perhaps the first lady would like to see this one on her next visit.

—Craig D'Ooge is the media director of the Library's Public Affairs Office.

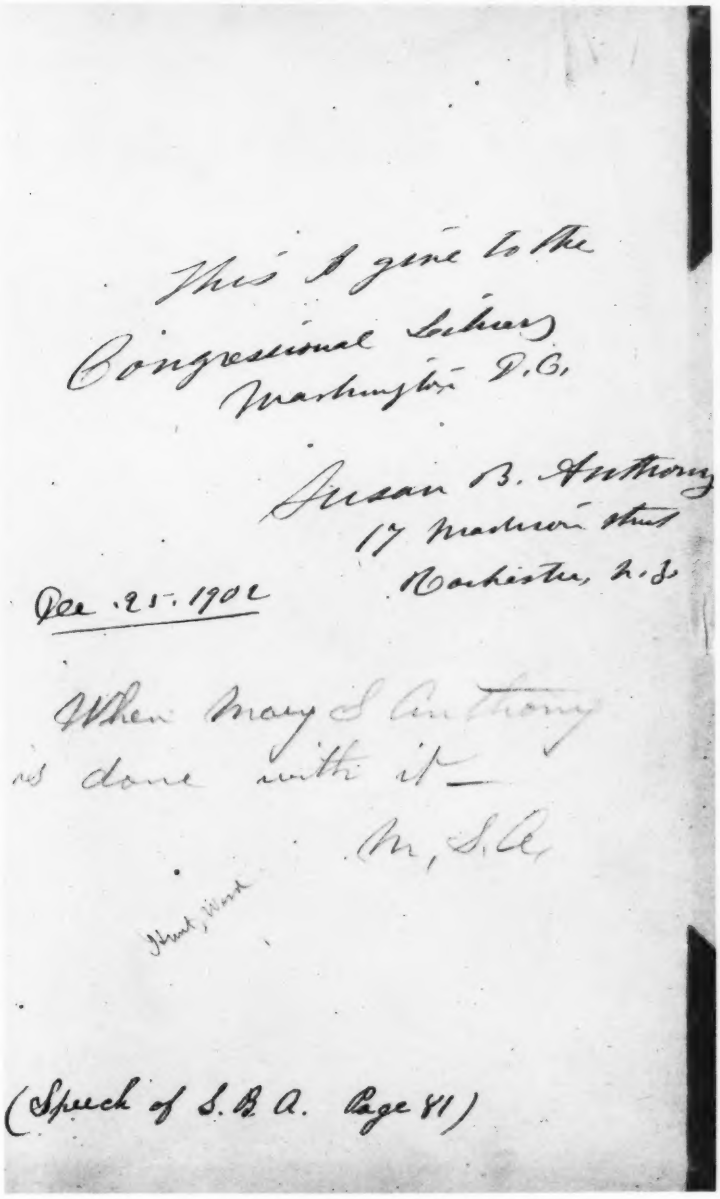


The Susan B. Anthony home in Rochester, N.Y.



Hillary Rodham Clinton and Dr. Billington look at an exhibition of photographs by Toni Frissell in the Librarian's office. During her visit, Mrs. Clinton requested a copy of a letter written by Susan B. Anthony. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Susan B. Anthony:
A Short List of References



Some notations by the Anthony sisters

Compiled by Sheridan Harvey, a reference specialist in the Humanities and Social Sciences Division

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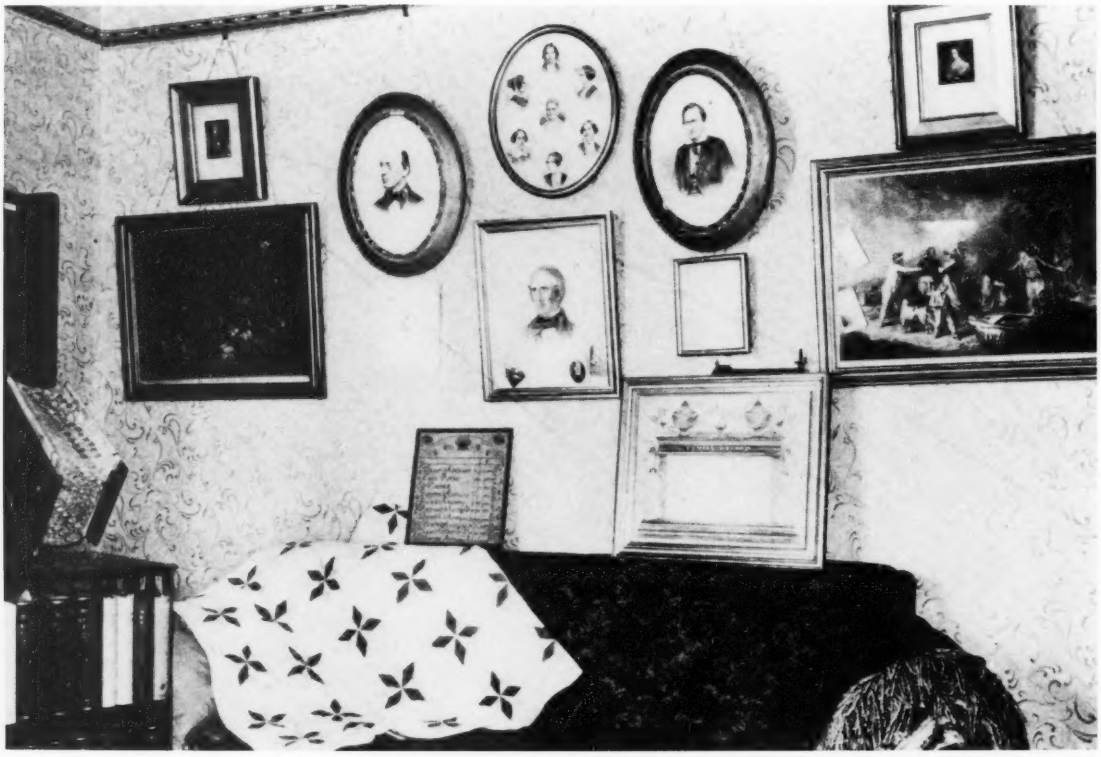

A corner of Anthony's study. Pictures on the walls include Benjamin Lundy, Gerrit Smith, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Lucy Stone, Lydia Maria Child and other reformers of the 18th and 19th centuries.

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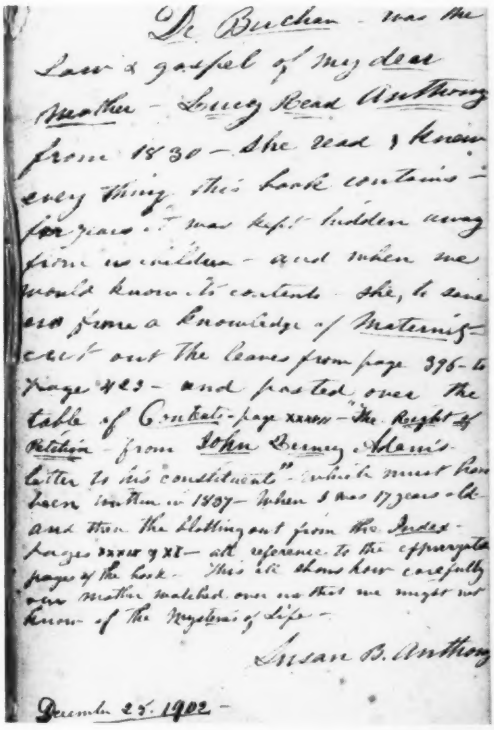
Piano-vocal score of an opera, set to the words of Gertrude Stein.

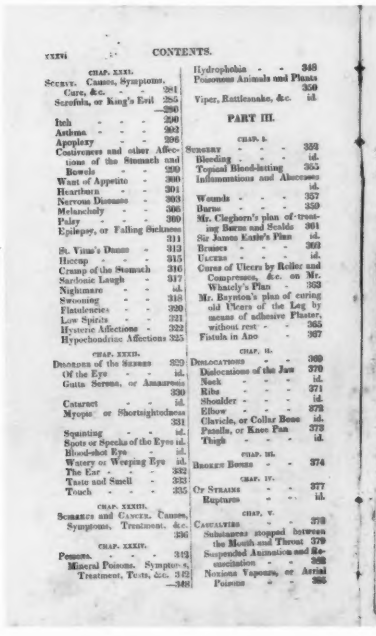


Dr Buchan - was the
Law & gospel of my dear
Mother - Lucy Read Anthony
from 1830 - She read & knew
every thing this book contains -
for years it was kept hidden away
from us children - and when we
would know its contents she, to save
us from a knowledge of Maternity -
cut out the leaves from page 396 to
Page 423 - and pasted over the
table of Contents - page xxxvii - "The Right of
Petition" from John Quincy Adams's
Letter to his "constituents" - which must have
been written in 1837 - when I was 17 years old
and then the slitting out from the Index -
pages xxxvii & xl - all reference to the appropriate
pages of the book - This will show how carefully
our mother watched over us that we might not
know of the Mysteries of Life -

Susan B. Anthony

December 25. 1902 -

A journal entry (left) by Susan B. Anthony telling how her mother pasted a speech by John Quincy Adams over the contents of a medical text (below, left); Anthony reading; detail from the book's title page



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The Stone or Gravel.

From Hon. John Quincy Adams' letter to his constituents.

My respect and reverence for the right of petition had been bred at the bone. By the laws of nature—preceding all formation of constitutions of government—preceding even the institution of civil society—the right of human weakness to implore relief from human power; was the law of the maternal rights of sex; which, in my opinion, could be denied. The history of our revolutionary struggle—that memory, that the oppressed and contempt of civil right, had been the loudest and bitterest of the reproaches with which our fathers had encroached the sword of Independence, had resorted in my affections, and weighed with every pulsation of my heart, the right of petition. I had seen it always respected in our Legislative Assemblies and especially in Congress. For three years after I became a member of the House of Representatives of the United States, every petition for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, had been received and referred to some appropriate committee, and reported upon like other petitions. In 1834, the first attempt had been made to lay such petitions on the table, without reference to a committee, and had failed. In 1835, the same attempt had been renewed and succeeded. In 1836, the first step, safe to suppress the right of petition upon all subjects relating to slavery and the slave trade occurred, and then I felt myself called upon, by the most indispensable obligations of my duty, not to support the prayer of the petitions for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, but to defend from practical abolition, the right of petition itself. That right is yet in the most imminent danger of being suppressed. At two successive sessions of Congress, resolutions have been adopted by the House of Representatives, that no petition, memorial, or paper, relating to slavery or the abolition of slavery, shall be read, printed, or received; by which laws now been added resolutions, that nearly three millions of native Americans, our countrymen, and represented by one hundred members on the floor of the House, have in no one instance the right of petition. These successive abridgements—first, of the objects which may be petitioned for; and secondly, of the persons entitled to petition—with not saintly the slaveholders. They will never be satisfied till the House shall formally refuse to receive any such petition, and till every member of the House shall be prohibited from offering to present one, upon pain of expulsion.

When Liberty
Is pined in chains, then the slightest wrong
That touches but the last manacle excites
To arms the noblest natures, and calls forth
Their vindication and their just revenge.
More readily the sufferer rises for himself
Than for another. Passion is the spur
Of the quickest resolution—and with anger
The quivering flesh, with bravery and vain things
Weak hearts, and cowards brave, as chivalrous suits
Exhaust his vital powers; and blind his limbs
In guiding steel. But when the heart is free
Because unmoved—and the deliberate mind
Is unimpassioned coolness, self-collected
Maturely, resolutely sees, and knows what
And beckoning reason, each with sleepless eyes
To cast those motives which his reflex acts
Across the pointed precipices of their course,
And, guarded beyond the utmost reach,
Defend nerveless from the consequences made?

WILLIAM ROSCOE.

By fifty hands, by one resistless stroke,
Shall the dead bodies of the king nations break!
The throne crushing beneath a parricide's head,
Tears from the trembling hand the sceptre part,
What strength, what rhythm have expression plead,
To smooth the crime and sanctify the deed!
What eloquence effuses, what magnificence!
They stand convinced and a nation saved!

RAYNAL MSS.

Exert! Nature! wave thy genial hand
Heal breach the fetters, and break the trembling band,
When idle ground on their arms poetic call,
Endless for one, and Man the lord of all!
And, oh, that strictly been indicated by time
Which, with the ages, will love the hero!
Who does that cause the effort to save to free,
Valiant with the sword, or with the pen,
Wrestled in—speech between with his arms!
No! Nature, in applause as a universal sound!
She looks on them with the same benignant eye,
Nor, mentioning, who the plaudits and the crown
Be forgotten freedom, or the dying down.
To call upon her country's smart and mend!

THOMAS CAMPBELL.

What can, with patience, see a monster sow
The seeding seeds of pride and misery,
Of wrongs and chastisements, miseries and strife,
Of starving blacks—thousands, millions,
And not—

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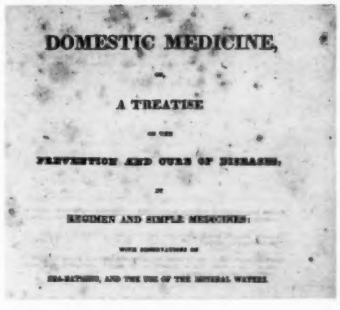


DOMESTIC MEDICINE,

OR,

A TREATISE

ON THE

PREVENTION AND CURE OF DISEASES,

BY

REGIMEN AND SIMPLE MEDICINES:

WITH OBSERVATIONS ON

SEA-BATHING, AND THE USE OF THE MINERAL WATERS.

Northern Telecom Awards Library $1 Million

Jean Monty, president and CEO of Northern Telecom, on March 15 presented the Librarian with a check for $1 million for the Library of Congress's Global Library Project.

"We are grateful to Northern Telecom for its generous award, which will help the Library continue its effort to bring the riches of the institution to the widest possible audience," said Dr. Billington.

"In presenting this award, it is our desire to support specifically the research and development of the network delivery needs of the Library," said Mr. Monty. "Focusing our efforts this way is our best opportunity to bring not only money to the table, but also our technical competence and network capabilities to work in ways that help Dr. Billington and his colleagues at the Library of Congress make the institution accessible to all Americans—and to all citizens of the world."

Jean Monty, president and CEO of Northern Telecom, awards $1 million to Dr. Billington for the Global Library Project. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

"The Library of Congress is the most important repository of information in the world," said Glenn R. Jones, chairman and CEO of Jones Intercable and a member of the Library's Madison Council. "We are grateful to Jean Monty and Northern Telecom for their desire and wisdom to increase the ability of the Library to share its resources with the rest of the world."

Since 1990, Jones Intercable, through its Mind Extension University channel, has presented the Library's television series of documentaries, the Global Library Project.

Northern Telecom is a leading global manufacturer of telecommunications equipment, providing products and services to telephone and cable television companies, corporations, governments, universities and other institutions worldwide. Northern Telecom had 1994 revenues of $8.9 billion and has approximately 57,000 employees worldwide.

Congress Approves Book Deacidification Plan

Congress has approved a plan submitted by the Library of Congress to begin using a new book deacidification technology while continuing to evaluate other methods over the next two years.

On Jan. 31, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch added its approval to the plan, which had been approved by a House subcommittee on Jan. 23.

The plan calls for the Library to contract with Preservation Technologies Inc. of Glenshaw, Pa., to demonstrate the firm's Bookkeeper mass deacidification process and treat up to 72,000 books during the next two years. At the same time, the Library has placed an announcement in the Commerce Business Daily to continue encouraging other companies with competing technologies to come forward if their processes have the potential to meet or exceed the Library's requirements.

The new plan follows an earlier effort by the Library to refine a process that uses diethyl zinc (DEZ) gas to deacidify large quantities of books and, at the same time, evaluate the Bookkeeper process as a promising alternative. The DEZ process was patented by the Library in 1975. Development of this process has been suspended since April 1994. Unlike DEZ, which is a gaseous technology, the Bookkeeper method uses particles of magnesium oxide suspended in a fluid.

Information about the Library's evaluation and testing of both programs is available on the Internet through the Library's Gopher. The

(Cont. on p. 178)

The Italian American Experience:
Two Writers Tell How Their Lives Affected Their Work

"The Italian American writer has to look up and have a larger vision of the world."

So said author Gay Talese, who gave a talk on Feb. 22 at the Library with another Italian American writer, Jay Parini.

Mr. Talese, a former *New York Times* reporter, wrote a best-selling book about the newspaper called *The Kingdom and the Power* (World, 1969) and has written several novels and a recent book on how to write creative nonfiction.

Mr. Parini, a professor at Middlebury College in Vermont, recently completed *John Steinbeck: A Biography* (Holt, 1995), and has also written and edited books of poetry, biographical works and novels.

The two authors joked that most of the Italian American writers alive today were present at the lecture in the Mumford Room. "We are pretty rare," said Mr. Talese, who was introduced by Rare Book Division Chief Larry Sullivan as being among a "dwindling group of intellectuals who make their living from writing."

Mr. Talese went on to describe Italian American authors as unwilling or unable to transcend the authority of the family or the church to write any ground-breaking material.

"The American people want stories. The Italian American story is too unconnected to the larger experience, unless people are looking for family. . . . Great writing [can be] centered in a family, but the outside world must come through," Mr. Talese said.

"I'm not here to denigrate our ancestry, [but] not many Italian Americans make their living writing in English. We're better represented in the movies," said Mr. Talese, who named Francis Ford Coppola and Martin Scorsese as directors who might be more influenced by their Italian roots.

Authors Gay Talese (left) and Jay Parini. *Photo by Yusef El-Amin*

"Italian tradition is visual. Paintings are the reality. Words are to be forgotten," Mr. Talese said.

Mr. Parini, whose grandparents emigrated from Northern Italy near Genoa, said, "I never even thought of myself as an Italian American until recently, when I said to myself, 'This is perhaps a category.' I had WASPicized myself. I wore tweed jackets, got a Ph.D. I spent so much time in England that I picked up a slight Scottish burr."

Mr. Talese offered a darker view of his Italian family, who arrived in the United States shortly after the end of World War I.

"We were very unsure of ourselves as Americans. My father was the only immigrant in his family. [During World War II] his brothers were in the Fascist army fighting the United States. I was aware that all my uncles were wearing the Italian uniform," said Mr. Talese, who grew up in Ocean City, N.J., the only son of a tailor.

"I worried about my uncles being killed. I remembered making model airplanes. My father was enraged that I was making [models of] the very planes with my little hands and balsa wood and glue that would destroy Monte Cassino [monastery]. My father broke into my bedroom and destroyed my whole air force when I was 13. This is the duplicity of the Italian American home," he said. "I don't know whose side I was on in World War II. In my soul I was Italian. I don't speak the language [but] I have an emotional attachment."

Mr. Talese did not say why he began to write in spite of the obstacles. Mr. Parini was much more forthcoming. "That's a good question, because there wasn't a book in my [house]. I read Robert Frost in ninth grade and I said, 'This is what I want to do with my life.'" Mr. Parini grew up in an Italian mining community in Pennsylvania. He described a strong oral tradition. "Storytelling was very much prized. The best

thing to do was to sit back and tell family stories on a weekend."

Mr. Talese described his father as a "distinguished" tailor to the Protestant gentlemen of Ocean City. A man who, because of his job of "opening up and undressing" magistrates, mayors and state assemblymen, came to share a certain intimacy with them.

Mr. Talese later wrote *Honor Thy Father* (World, 1971). "I like to write about father-son relationships because within that relationship there is love and hate, courage and cowardice," Mr. Talese said.

"Italians do not want to humiliate the father because [it would mean] disloyalty to the family. It's an inhibiting factor peculiar to the Italian race," Mr. Talese said.

In mulling the source of Italian insularity, Mr. Talese spoke of little villages "painted on the mountains" of Southern Italy. Mr. Parini said that the local dialects were so different that a person from one village could not make himself understood in the next. The immigrants from the villages and regions of Italy tended to stick together once they got to the United States, according to Mr. Parini and Mr. Talese, whose lecture generated much discussion in the audience.

Before the lecture, Dr. Sullivan gave an abbreviated history of Italian-language book acquisitions at the Library. The texts date to the post-Revolutionary War period, when Thomas Jefferson in 1815 sold his library to Congress after British soldiers burned the Capitol during the War of 1812. Many of Jefferson's books were written in Italian.

In the early 1900s, some 1,130 Italian-language titles were added with the acquisition of the *Accademia della Crusca* collection. The *Accademia* was founded in the 16th century to standardize the Italian language in the Tuscan dialect. Published between 1500 and 1887, the collection includes humanities and sciences titles by 350 authors.

The most recent significant Italian-language acquisition was the gift of a 1560 Venetian edition of Ludovico Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso*, Dr. Sullivan said.

This lecture was the second in a series on the Italian influence on America. The first was about architecture (see *LC Information Bulletin*, Dec. 6). The series is jointly sponsored by the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division, the Embassy of Italy, the Italian Cultural Institute and the National Italian American Foundation.

Italian Ambassador to the United States Boris Biancheri will discuss the legacy of Machiavelli in a third lecture at 6:30 p.m. May 1 in the Mumford Room. —*Yvonne French*

PUBLICATION

New from the Cataloging Distribution Service

The very popular *Cataloger's Desktop* has been enhanced.

Now included is the full text of the 10th publication—the updated 1994 version of the *USMARC Format for Bibliographic Data*.

USMARC Format for Bibliographic Data explains all field codes used for record creation and shows the fields that changed as a result of format integration.

Other new files that will be added to *Desktop* in 1995 are *Music Cataloging Decisions* and the 1995 edition of *Subject Cataloging Manual: Shelflisting*.

Catalogers Desktop provides catalogers with many advantages. As a single CD-ROM, *Cataloger's Desktop* gives users the ability to locate rules and citations quickly and easily, and to catalog with increased efficiency.

Files can be customized to suit cataloging needs. The creation of personalized files can be initialized by a user password. Personalized "post-it" notes, bookmarks, highlighting and links can be added. The notes can also be applied to each update of the product without filing new pages or manually transferring important information.

Cataloger's Desktop prices: Single user, $870 in North America, $875 outside North America.

Each additional simultaneous user: $160 in North America and outside North America (includes additional set of documentation).

To order *Cataloger's Desktop*, to request either a 3.5-inch demonstration diskette or a demonstration CD-ROM (both are free), or to receive a copy of the system requirements, contact: Library of Congress, Cataloging Distribution Service, Customer Services Section-PAO, P.O. Box 75720, Washington, DC 20541-5017.

Telephone: in the U.S. call toll-free (800) 255-3666 or call (202) 707-6100. Fax (202) 707-1334. TDD: (202) 707-0012. Internet: cdsinfo@mail.loc.gov.

DEZ *(Cont. from p. 176)*
text of separate reports about the Bookkeeper and DEZ technologies can be accessed by telnetting to "Marvel.loc.gov" and logging in as "Marvel."

To locate the two reports on Marvel, select "Libraries and Publishers (Technical Services)," then "Preservation at the Library of Congress," then "Mass Deacidification: Report."

A full report on the technology and its approval by Congress will appear in a future issue of this publication.

Pop Fiction:
LC to Sponsor Symposium on the Dime Novel

The Library of Congress has invited librarians, scholars, authors, publishers, bibliophiles and others interested in the history of popular fiction in America to gather in June for a look at the genre from the dime novel to today's paperback romances.

The Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division and the Center for the Book are sponsors of a symposium on "Pioneers, Passionate Ladies and Private Eyes," set for Friday and Saturday, June 9 and 10, in the James Madison Memorial Building, 101 Independence Ave. S.E.

Larry Sullivan, chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, and John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book, said the symposium will emphasize the importance of the study of American culture of mass-produced popular fiction published since the end of the Civil War.

"The Rare Book and Special Collections Division holds one of the largest collections of popular fiction in the country and is one of the few libraries that systematically collects original paperback fiction for research purposes," said Dr. Sullivan.

The opening session of the symposium will focus on the dime novels that became favorites of American readers in the second half of the 19th century and on the lesser-known work of Louisa May Alcott, whose name is, of course, a household word because of her book *Little Women*.

Early in her career, Alcott frequently published sensational stories described as "by a well known author." *V.V. or Plots and Counterplots* was published with that credit in four installments in a magazine called *The Flag* in 1865. The same year it was published as a 10-cent novelette with A.M. Barnard listed as the author.

The first symposium speaker will be Madeleine B. Stern, a rare book dealer and author, who will discuss Alcott in a speech on "Dime Novels by the 'Children's Friend.'" She will be joined at the session by Leona Rostenberg, distinguished literary historian, in discussing "The Discovery of Louisa May Alcott's Pseudonym."

In a second major address, Janice S. Radway of the Duke University English faculty and author of *Reading the Romance: Women, Patriarchy and Popular Literature*, will talk on "Clearing a Space for Middlebrow Culture: The Struggle Over the Book, 1880–1920."

Twenty other invited speakers have agreed to present papers on topics ranging from ax-murderer Lizzie Borden to present-day novels such as Harlequin romances. For the symposium, the Rare Book and Special Collections Division will assemble an exhibition of dime novels, series books and paperbacks from its collection.

The symposium is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. For additional details about the program and information on registration, write to Clark W. Evans, senior reference librarian, Rare Book and Special Collections Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4860; electronic mail address: evans@mail.loc.gov; or telephone (202) 707–2017.

As for all Library public programs, interpreting services (American Sign Language, Contact Signing, Oral and Tactile) will be provided if requested by June 1. Call (202) 707–6362, TTY and voice, to make a specific request. For other ADA accommodations, contact the Disability Employment Office (202) 707–9948 TTY and (202) 707–7544 voice.

Some of the many dime novels at the Library

LC's Publishing Office Reaches New Audiences:
New Books and Cooperative Ventures Announced

Through new copublishing arrangements with trade publishers and new illustrated book series based on the Library's rich collections, Library of Congress publications are finding new audiences—and winning more design awards.

"The Library's publications are beginning to have an important cumulative effect," said John Y. Cole, LC's acting director of publishing. "Our efforts have been reinforced by financial support from the Library's James Madison Council, the in-depth subject knowledge of LC staff specialists and the marketing and distribution talents of our partners in the private sector."

The Publishing Office is responsible for publishing—or coordinating the publication of—most of the Library's scholarly books, exhibition catalogs, collection guides and books and products aimed at a general audience. Publications are produced both through the Government Printing Office using appropriated and gift funds and, increasingly, in partnership with commercial publishers.

In fiscal 1994, the office produced or coordinated the publication of more than 50 books, calendars and other products that described and illuminated the Library's collections.

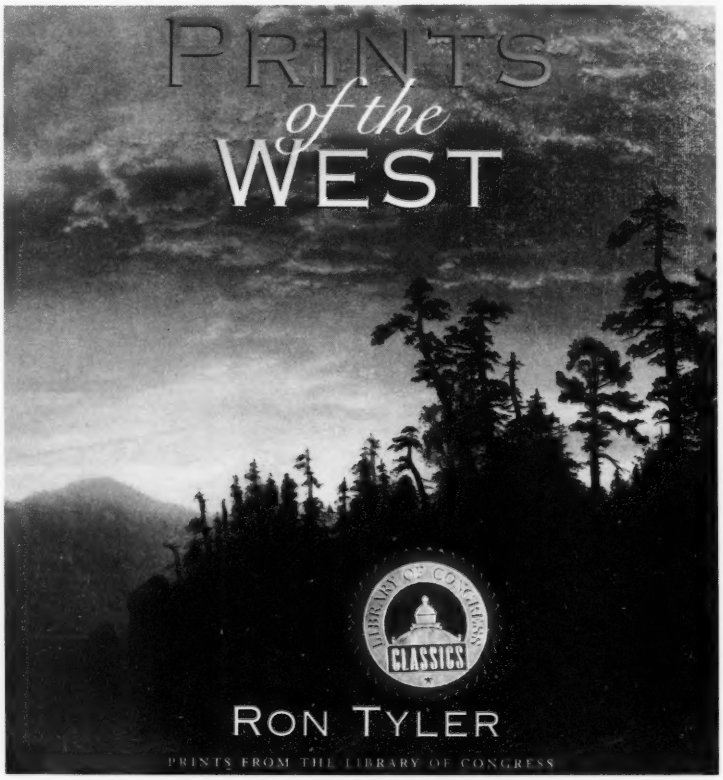
Currently 14 cooperative agreements are in effect with major publishers including Alfred A. Knopf, Oxford University Press, Pomegranate Books and Calendars, and Fulcrum Publishing.

Many other agreements are in various stages of development or negotiation. Two of the Library's most successful publications in recent years, *Rome Reborn: The Vatican Library & Renaissance Culture* and *Scrolls from the Dead Sea*, were cooperative publications developed by the Publishing Office and produced, marketed and distributed by private sector partners. These volumes were based on Library exhibitions. Cooperative publications are available in bookstores around the nation and featured in the LC Sales Shop.

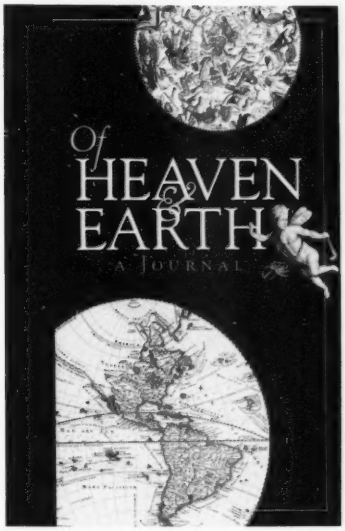
In 1994 the Library published 15 calendars covering subjects such as classical music, astronomical maps and the Civil War, and eight posters with Pomegranate, using Library collections. The most recent publication is the blank book *Of Heaven & Earth*, developed in cooperation with the Huntington Library.

Fulcrum Publishing, a partner since 1990, produces the "Library of Congress Classics" series of illustrated books. The fourth and most recent book in the series is *Prints of the West: Prints from the Library of Congress* by Ron Tyler, which features collections from the Prints and Photographs, Rare Book and Special Collections, and Geography and Map divisions.

The other books are *The First Americans: Photographs from the Library of Congress, with text by William H. Goetzmann; Gentle Conquest: The Botanical Discovery of North America with Illustrations from the Library of Congress*, by James L. Reveal; and



One of the new books. Others are . . .



. . . a blank book . . .

Mapping the Civil War, Featuring Rare Maps from the Library of Congress by Christopher Nelson.

Immigrants and *Presidents* by Martin W. Sandler are the latest in a series of books for young people published by HarperCollins and based on material drawn largely from the Library's Prints and Photographs Division. The first two books were *Cowboys* and *Pioneers*. Each volume is introduced by Dr. Billington.

Through an agreement with Applewood Books, the Library has developed the Library of Congress Centennial Bestseller series, facsimiles of books that were bestsellers 100 years ago. The first volume, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Sign of Four*, is introduced by Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole. The second in the series, *Beautiful Joe*, an autobiography by Marshall Saunders and a hallmark in the movement for humane treatment of animals, is introduced by Roger A. Caras, president of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Each book includes a brief foreword by the Librarian.

Major forthcoming cooperative publications include books to accompany the current Library of Congress exhibition "Temple of Liberty" (Oxford University Press) and the forthcoming "Treasures of the Bibliothèque Nationale" exhibition (Yale University Press).

Another major publication will be both an exploration of American history and a celebration of the Library's visual arts collections, to be published by Alfred A. Knopf.

Two particularly useful and illuminating continuing series are:

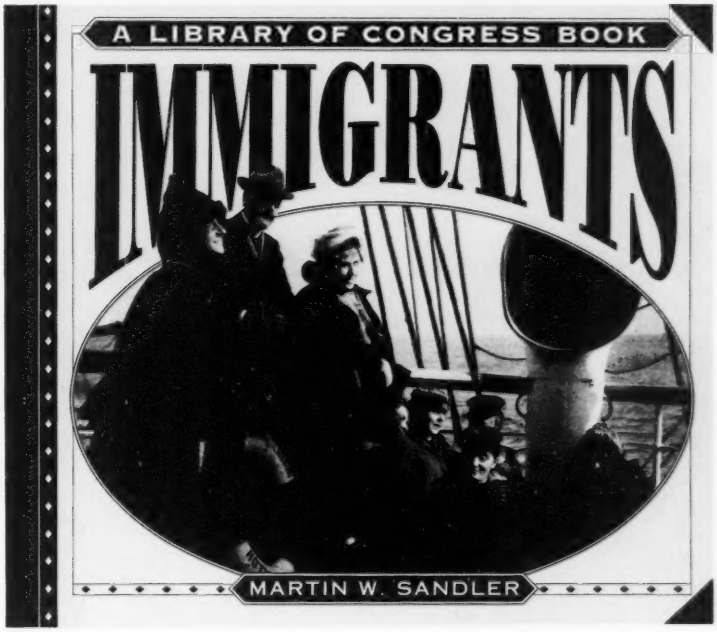
☐ *Performing Arts*, lively annual volumes featuring articles based on the Library's music, motion picture, broadcasting and drama collections, published since 1986.

☐ The Library of Congress resource guides, surveys of Library-wide resources on particular topics that have been published since 1991. Titles so far: *The African-American Mosaic: A Library of Congress Resource Guide to the Study of Black History and Culture*, *The Largest Event: A Library of Congress Resource Guide to the Study of World War II* and *Keys to the Encounter: A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the Study of the Age of Discovery*.

A third series—handsome illustrated guides to Library collections—is supported by the Library's Madison Council, a private-sector advisory body. The latest of four titles is *Library of Congress European Collections: An Illustrated Guide*.

Edited and with an introduction by former European Division Chief Michael H. Haltzel, it includes seven chapters and a researcher's guide written by European Division staff members with the assistance of people from other divisions whose collections are represented in the guide.

The seven chapters: "Humanities and Social Sciences"; "The Arts"; "Science and Technology"; "Special Collections"; "Rare Books and Manuscripts"; "Maps"; "European



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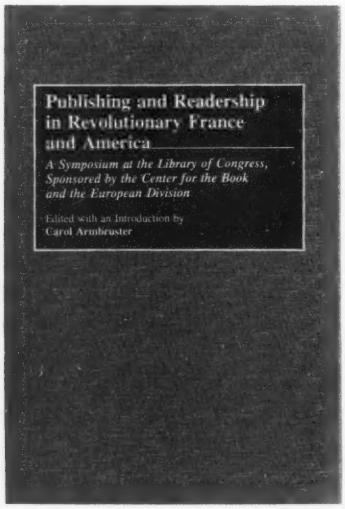

Publishing and Readership in Revolutionary France and America
A Symposium at the Library of Congress, Sponsored by the Center for the Book and the European Division
Edited with an Introduction by
Carol Armbruster

. . . a cultural history . . .

Americana" and "American Europeana" represent the major components of the Library's 8 million books and bound periodicals of European origin or pertaining to Europe.

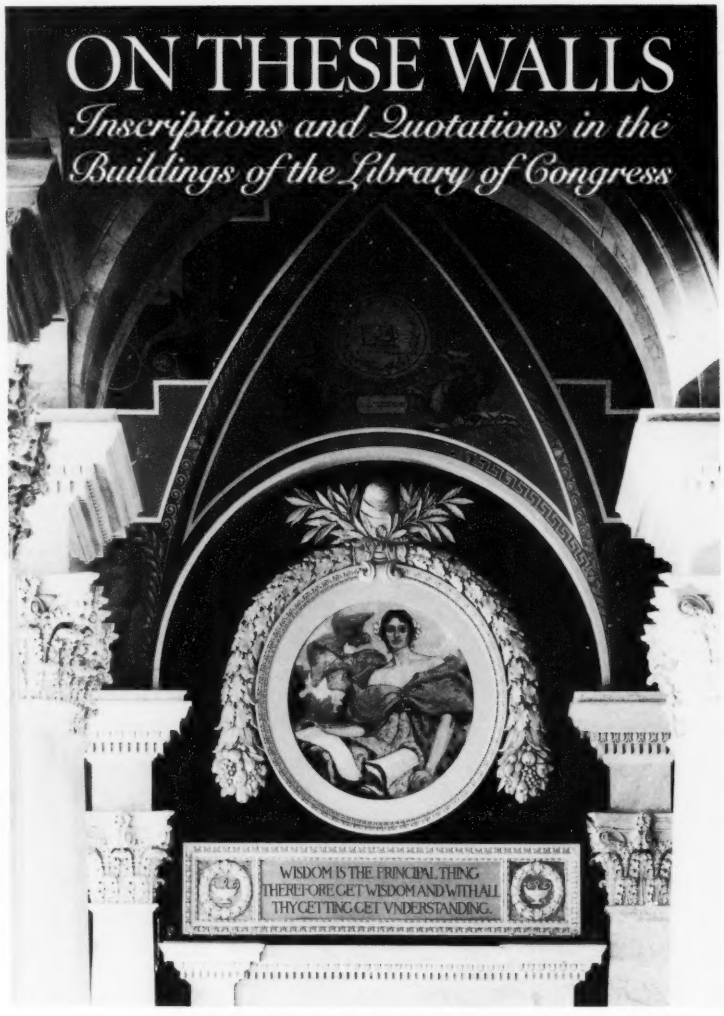
Descriptions of collections of maps, photographs, manuscripts, music, motion pictures, posters and engravings are included. The 29 color and 19 black-and-white illustrations represent the scope of European cultures from the 13th century to the present in a variety of media, from frescoes to advertising posters.

The 80-page volume may be purchased at the Library of Congress Sales Shop, Washington, DC 20540-5240, (202) 707-0204, or from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Mail Stop: SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-9328. The price is $9.50. Specify stock number S/N 030-001-00155-5 when ordering from GPO.

The Madison Council also is supporting a series of books about the Library's history and buildings that will mark the centenary of the Jefferson Building in 1997 and the Library's bicentenary in the year 2000.

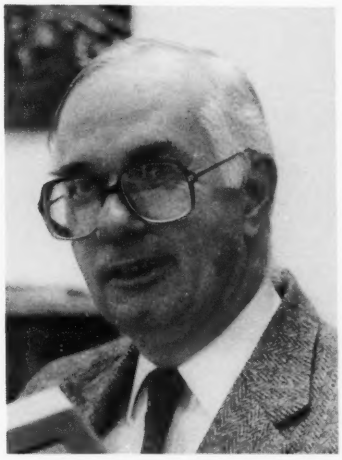
The latest is *On These Walls: Inscriptions and Quotations in the Buildings of the Library of Congress* by John Y. Cole. Aimed primarily at visitors, this is the first book to describe the quotations and inscriptions that decorate all three Library buildings; it contains six color and 27 black-and-white photographs and a detailed index and guide to names.

The book also contains brief histories of the Library itself and the Jefferson, Adams and Madison buildings. *On These Walls,* a 106-page book, may be purchased from the Library of Congress Sales Shop, Washington, DC 20540-5240; phone (202) 707-0204, or from the Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Mail Stop: SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-9328. The price is $8.50. Specify stock number S/N 030-001-00156-3 when ordering from GPO.


ON THESE WALLS
Inscriptions and Quotations in the Buildings of the Library of Congress
WISDOM IS THE PRINCIPAL THING
THEREFORE GET WISDOM AND WITH ALL
THY GETTING GET VNDERSTANDING.

. . . and a book to bring the Library home.

News from the Center for the Book:
Library and Book Historians to Meet on Sept. 12–13



Historian Ken Carpenter will speak.

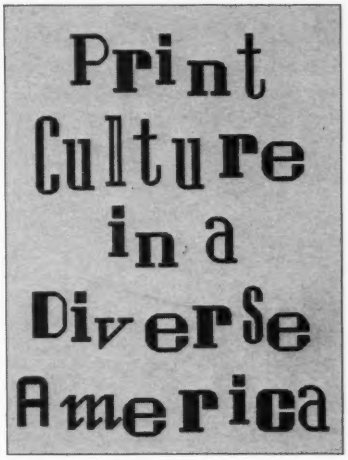
The need for a collaborative, multivolume history of libraries in the United States—one that will place library history within the context of book history—will be addressed on Sept. 12 in a lecture by Kenneth E. Carpenter, assistant director for research resources at Harvard University Library.

Mr. Carpenter's presentation, sponsored by the Center for the Book, is titled "Libraries and Readers: Toward a History of Libraries and Culture in America." It will take place at 6 p.m. in the Mumford Room on the sixth floor of the Madison Memorial Building, and is free and open to the public.

"Library history *is* cultural history," said John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in announcing the center's sponsorship of the lecture and an invitational conference of leading library and book historians on Sept. 12–13. The goals, feasibility and possible content of a new history of libraries and culture will be discussed at the meeting, Dr. Cole said, as well as such a work's potential relationships to other publishing projects in book and cultural history.

A widely published library historian, Kenneth E. Carpenter also has been editor of the *Harvard Library Bulletin* since 1980. In 1983 he edited *Books and Society in History*, a pioneering volume in the development of the field of the history of books in the United States. From 1989 to 1994 he was the chair of the executive committee of the American Antiquarian Society's Program in the History of the Book in American Culture.

☐ **History of Print Culture Conference Scheduled.** More than 26 papers will be presented on May 5–6 in Madison, Wis., at "Print Culture in a Diverse America," a conference sponsored by the Center for the Book and the Center for the Study of Print Culture in Modern America. Conference sessions are: "Pushing the Envelope: Black Authors as Publishers"; "To Be Noticed and Recognized: The Black Use of Print"; "Reflecting Cultures in the 20th Century Asian Press"; "Gendered Print: Race and Radicals"; "Different Worlds, Different Times: Gendered Expressions in Two Cultures"; "Buried Stories: Almanacs and Cookbooks as Print Culture"; "The Tortured World of Publishing: Two Case Studies"; "Image in Memory: Studies of an Event and a People"; and "Transformation of Communication: Race and Print in America."



Registration for the conference is $30 per person ($15 for students). Registration must be received by April 27. Checks should be made out to the Wisconsin History Foundation and mailed to Maureen Hady, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 815 State St., Madison, WI 53706. For further information, phone (608) 264–6598.

The Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America is a joint project of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin-Madison that is designed to help determine the historical sociology of print in all its culturally diverse manifestations. For information contact Wayne A. Wiegand and James P. Danky, codirectors, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706, phone (608) 263–2914, fax (608) 263–4849.

☐ **Conference on Dime Novels Announced.** The Center for the Book and the Rare Book and Special Collections Division are sponsoring a conference on dime novels at the Library on June 9–10. For details, see p. 179.

☐ **Conference on Book Catalogs at Grolier Club.** The Center for the Book was a sponsor on Jan. 24 of an invitational conference on "Book Catalogs: Their Collecting, Preservation, Cataloging and Use." The meeting was organized by the

Bibliographical Projects Committee of the Bibliographical Society of America "to pry out information about catalogs, collections of catalogs and uses of catalogs; and in order to build solidarity among those responsible for collections and their catalogs, indexes, bibliographies, projects and use." Larry Sullivan, chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, was the Library's representative.

□ **LC Symposium Volume Receives Good Reviews.** "Armbruster's collection serves an extremely important function," says a review of *Publishing and Readership in Revolutionary France and America* (Greenwood Press, 1993) in the Winter 1995 issue of *Libraries & Culture.* This is one of several recent favorable reviews of the book, which is edited by the European Division's Carol Armbruster and based on a 1989 symposium at the Library of Congress sponsored by the Center for the Book and the European Division.

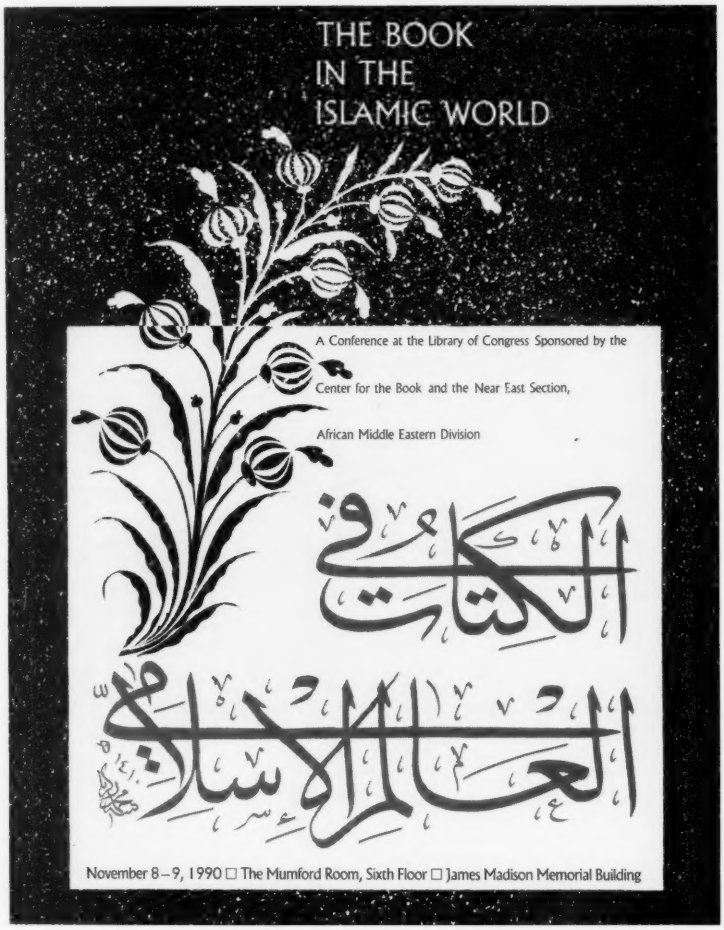
The other reviews have appeared in *The Library Quarterly, Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* and *WESS Newsletter,* published by the Western European Studies Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

The essays in the volume, contributed by 12 prominent French and American historians, are presented in four sections: "Publishing as a Profession," "Publishing and the Law," "Reading" and "Collecting and Using Materials."

The volume is available in the LC Sales Shop and by mail for $45. If ordering by mail, add $3.50 for postage and handling. Orders should be sent to the Library of Congress Sales Shop, Washington, DC 20540–5240. Credit card orders may be placed by phone at (202) 707–0204.

□ **SUNY Press to Publish LC Symposium Volume.** The State University of New York (SUNY) Press has announced publication in July 1995 of *The Book in the Islamic World: The Written Word and Communication in the Middle East.* Edited by George N. Atiyeh, head of LC's Near East Section, the volume is based on a 1990 symposium at the Library of Congress sponsored by the Center for the Book and the Near East Section. For information call the SUNY Press at (607) 277–2211.

NOTE: The listing of participants in the Center for the Book's Library-Head Start-Museum partnership workshop in Orlando, Fla. (see LC *Information Bulletin,* March 20) was inadvertently truncated. For a complete listing, write the Center for the Book, Washington, DC 20054–8200.

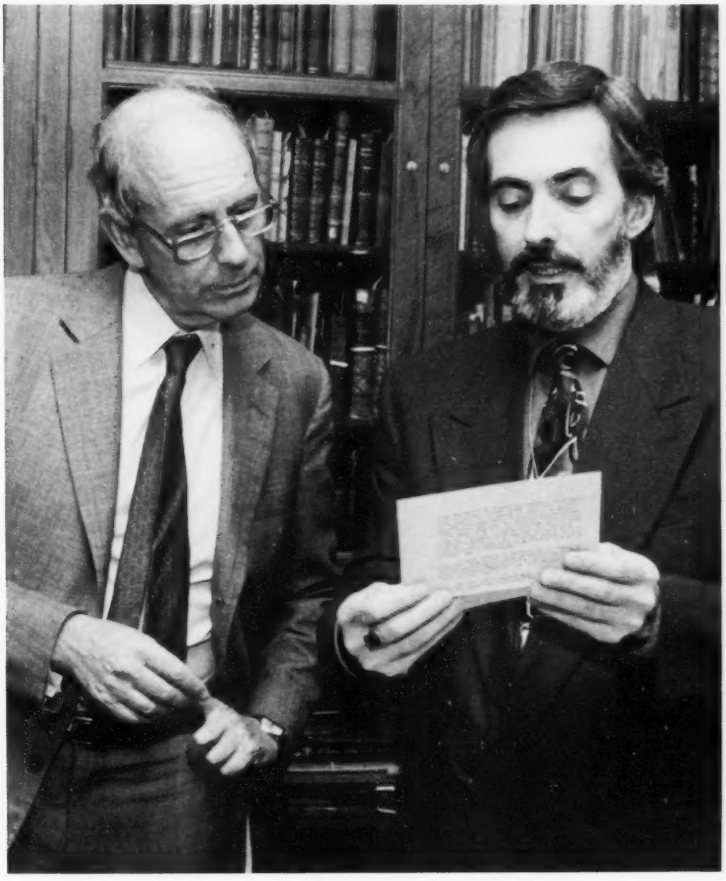

THE BOOK IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD
A Conference at the Library of Congress Sponsored by the
Center for the Book and the Near East Section,
African Middle Eastern Division
November 8–9, 1990 □ The Mumford Room, Sixth Floor □ James Madison Memorial Building

Justice Comes Calling:

Stephen Breyer Visits Rare Book and Special Collections Division

Justice Stephen Breyer, President Clinton's most recent appointment to the Supreme Court, accompanied by his wife, friends and staff, toured the Rare Book and Special Collections Division on March 24.

According to Larry Sullivan, chief of the division, the justice asked to see examples of the division's European materials, especially illuminated manuscripts and works of Voltaire and Proust. Dr. Sullivan and specialists in the division displayed the richly illuminated late medieval manuscript known as the Warburg Book of Hours, a Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection first edition of Voltaire's *Le Henriade* that contains an autograph letter by the author and a first edition of Proust's *Du Coté de Chez Swann*.



Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer (left) joins Rare Book Division Chief Larry Sullivan to look at a 1940 letter from Andre Malraux to former Librarian Archibald MacLeish. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Other items the Justice and his party viewed ranged from the 1462 Mainz edition of Cicero's *De Officiis*, the first classical text printed with movable type, and the *Ars Moriendi*, a German block book printed in 15th century Germany, to Benjamin Franklin's marginalia in two Tory pamphlets and Susan B. Anthony's copy of Mary Wollstonecraft's *Vindication of the Rights of Women*.

The group also viewed Thomas Jefferson's library, the Stern Collection of Lincolniana and other treasures of the Library.

Justice Breyer told Dr. Sullivan that he used the division's collections when he needed a bibliographical citation for a G.K. Chesterton quotation that he wished to use in a recent Supreme Court opinion. A search for Chesterton's book *Simplicity and Tolstoy* (London, 1912) revealed that the only copy in the area is housed in the Library's Rare Book Division.

Rare Book staff copied the relevant part of the book, sent it to the justice, and the quotation appeared in the court's March 28, 1995, opinion *Qualitex Co. v. Jacobson Products Co. Inc.* The quote refers to the "noble instinct for giving the right touch of beauty to common and necessary things."

After the visit Justice Breyer wrote that "the Rare Book Collection is truly impressive. One could spend many happy hours looking through the treasures that the Library now possesses."

Justice Breyer visited the Library under the auspices of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division's Distinguished Visitors Program, inaugurated last year with the visit of Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Saved by the Book:

How the Congressional Record *Protected the Russian Parliamentary Library*

On Oct. 4, 1993, as Russian troops loyal to President Boris Yeltsin stormed the main building of the Russian parliament occupied by the opposition, a stray incendiary bullet shot through one of the windows of the Russian Parliamentary Library on the 11th floor, ricocheted off the wall, and imbedded itself between two shelved volumes of the bound *Congressional Record*.

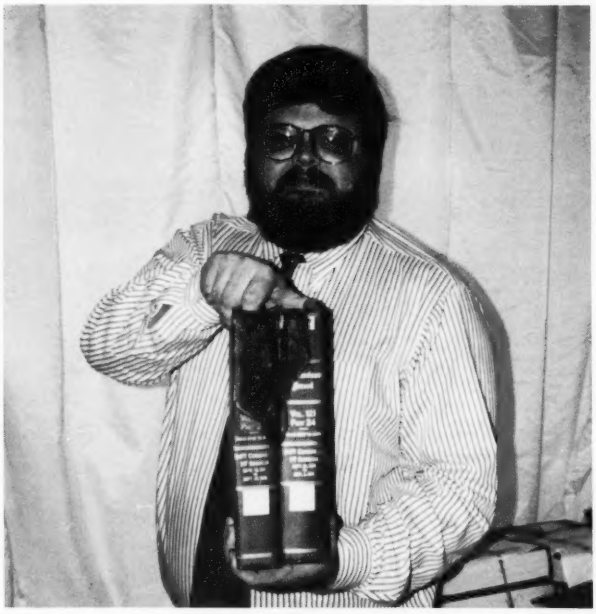
The bullet scorched Parts 23 and 24 of Volume 121 of the *Congressional Record* (94th Congress, 1st Session), but the *Record* refused to catch fire.

According to the director of the library, Irina Andreeva, "If the bullet had hit anything else in the reading room, like some newspapers, the whole library on the 11th floor would have gone up in smoke."

Unfortunately, the other half of the Parliamentary Library was housed on the 19th floor of the "White House" (as the main building of the Supreme Soviet was called). All the material on the 19th floor—including a set of Congressional Research Service (CRS) Reports, Issue Briefs, and InfoPacs along with two wooden book-trucks purchased by CRS with private money from the Ford Foundation—disappeared in flames. Ms. Andreeva remarked: "There was nothing at all left—not even ashes."

Most of the 19th floor items have been or are in the process of being replaced by the Library of Congress.

The loss of the Russian library's collections on the 19th floor (mainly Russian reference books and Russian serials) was a severe blow to the Parliamentary Library, but the loss of the 11th floor materials, with a rare collection of parliamentary documents from the Russian Federation and its republic-level legislatures, would have been a much bigger disaster.



Eric Johnson displays the burned *Congressional Record*. *Photo by Louis Drummond*

The 11th floor library also housed most of the valuable non-Russian materials in the library's collection, including books sent by the Library of Congress's Exchange and Gift Division as part of a continuing exchange agreement with the Russian Parliamentary Library. Although CRS had purchased $10,000 in reference materials with private funding from the Ford Foundation that were destined for the 19th floor, the Russian Customs Service unintentionally kept these items out of harm's way by delaying their delivery.

Along with all the other items on the 11th floor library, the *Congressional Record* was rescued by Ms. Andreeva and her staff, who carried the volumes out of the ruined shell of the Russian White House. The *Congressional Record* is still part of the Russian Parliamentary Library's collection. It is available once again to the deputies of the new Russian parliament at the library's reading room within the Russian Parliamentary Center building on Tsvetnoi Boulevard.

The two scorched volumes of the *Congressional Record* now occupy a special place in the library's collections, befitting the role they played in Russia's parliamentary evolution.

The Russian Parliamentary Library is the only organizational unit to survive the transition from the old parliament (the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation) to the new (the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation). Thanks to the modest roles played by the *Congressional Record*, the Congressional Research Service and the Library of Congress's Exchange and Gift Division, an important part of the library's collections survived as well.

—*Eric A. Johnson*

Eric Johnson is a senior exchange specialist in the Exchange and Gift Division.

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